

مكذات الأمل



...of qatayef fillings are crushed...



...or cheese spooned in.



The pancake is folded over...



...and dipped in syrup.



pancakes can also be bought unstuffed

The food of Ramadan

While Ramadan has its own distinctive food such as *qatayef*, *awwama* and *qamar al din* it also has its own drinks such as *sous* and *tamer hindi* but this year the drinks have disappeared from the market. **Mohammad Ayish** discusses the trade of Ramadan specialities in Jordan.

AMMAN — Long lines of semi-exhausted people waiting for their turn to buy the Ramadan *qatayef* pastry are a frequent sight during the fasting month. The making and eating of *qatayef*, an inseparable part of the Ramadan tradition, is also a source of good money for many Jordanian restaurants and refreshment stores who cannot open in the daytime during Ramadan.

"We are not allowed to sell soft drinks in Ramadan, and instead of sitting at home doing nothing for a whole month, we have worked in the *qatayef* business," one soft-drink merchant in downtown Amman said. He added that he makes *qatayef* in Ramadan not only because he has no other work during the month, but because he finds some novelty in the job of frying and stuffing the Ramadan "pancakes".

The *qatayef* business has been associated with the fasting month, and even if our restaurant were to be open during Ramadan, we would have made the pancakes," one restaurant owner said. He added that in his experience, *qatayef* is appreciated as a dessert during Ramadan not only by Muslim fasters, but by non-Muslims as well.

"The *qatayef* is made of ordinary flour with the addition of yeast and other additives, all stirred together in a basin according to certain proportions. The batter is then ladled onto the grill just like any other pancake. But as one side of the pancake is well-fried on the skillet, the other side is left as it is; the piece is not turned over.

The Ramadan pancake is stuffed with crushed almonds, coconut or a special kind of cheese. The stuffed pieces will then be either fried in oil or roasted in the oven before they are ready to eat. The next step can be to immerse the pancakes in sweet syrup; but some people prefer their *qatayef* without the sweet taste.

"Many of those who patronise my place are not necessarily Muslims; but they buy *qatayef* because that Ramadan pancake is very popular among them," he said.

Another common Ramadan food item is *qamar al din*, which is processed dried fruit. *Qamar al din* can be made of apples, almonds, grapes and other fruit. It is sometimes crumbled into water, to be drunk as a liquid. But some people eat *qamar al din* dry, chewing it like gum.

Awwama is another important

Ramadan dessert, made usually at home. Like *qatayef*, *awwama* is made of flour, and is fired in oil in the form of small balls. The balls are then submerged in sugar water before being eaten.

A more traditional Ramadan food is palm dates. According to Muslim tradition, dates are the "most blessed" type of food to start with when breaking one's fast. The prophet Mohammed is said to have broken his fast by eating two or three dates and drinking water — then he would pray, and eat what food he needed.

held during the rest of the year. The major feature of a Ramadan banquet is the wide variety of food items offered. Such items range from warm soups to fried chickens, from *salas* to kebab and from vegetable food to *mansaf*.

Breakfasting habits in the countryside are different from those in the city. In Amman for example, members of the family would usually be the only ones at a home's *iftar* banquet. But in the villages, each head of a household is

The meaning and practice of RAMADAN

a Jordan Times series

While Ramadan has its own distinctive foods, it also has its own drinks. *Sous* and *tamer hindi* are among the most popular. These two beverages are either made at home, or sold by vendors shortly before sunset. This year, however, these drinks have disappeared from the market, because they were believed to have contributed to the current outbreak of cholera in the country.

Besides desserts and drinks, Ramadan has its special daily banquet: the *iftar*, generally never

required by tradition to invite his counterparts in the same village once in the fasting month to a group banquet. In that case it may happen that the head of a household will have the chance to eat at his own home only once during the month — when he hosts the banquet for the others.

Another Ramadan meal is the midnight *sahour* — this is not as big a meal as the *iftar*. In the *sahour*, food includes easily digestible light items such as jam, olives, cheese and soft drinks.

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An iftar breakfast can be a sumptuous banquet

Have a healthy holiday



LAHNSTEIN (INF). "An Active Holiday promotes Good Health" is the motto given to the campaign staged by the German Sports Federation...

Baseball strike-Miller pessimistic on saving season

WASHINGTON, July 26 (Agencies)—With chances of saving the rest of the season labeled "very bad" by the players' top negotiator...

After four days of hard negotiations, a breakdown occurred when the players termed inadequate the owners' latest proposal on free-agent compensation.

But Ray Grebey, the owners' top negotiator, said "we're closer than we've ever been" to ending the 43-year-old walkout.

Differences Narrowed

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of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, where the talks had been held under a news blackout since being moved here from New York Monday.

Asked about the prospects for resuming the season, Miller replied: "Very bad."

Moffett Disappointed

Federal mediator Kenneth Moffett said he did not look for talks to resume until at least next week, possibly Wednesday.

Thursday was a lengthy and confusing day at the headquarters

Holmes, Cooney agree on match

NEW YORK, July 26 (A.P.)—World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Larry Holmes and top-ranked Gerry Cooney have agreed to a match whose site and date are yet to be determined.

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Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Chandler retains WBA title

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, July 26 (R)—American Jeff Chandler retained his World Boxing Association bantamweight title last night when he knocked out Puerto Rican challenger Julian Solis in the seventh round of a scheduled 15-round bout.

Chandler, 24, using a two-inch reach advantage, was the aggressor from the start charging into Solis with combination punches.

FOR SALE Mercedes 200, 1980, km 15,000, outside white inside green.

Raack, Sheraton-Hotel Room 306

THE BETTER HALF By Vinson



"You honeymooners have the room overlooking the lake. You, madam, have the room overlooking theirs."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

A word game section with a cartoon of a man and a woman, and a list of words to be unscrambled: REVVE, BASAH, BILGEO, SWEFET, FENEWEST.

TO LET

A ground floor finished apartment in Rashid Suburb consists of: 2 bedrooms, sitting and dining, kitchen, bath, 2 verandas and garden.

THE AMMAN PLAYERS

Will begin production of their first play of the season, "Bell, Book and Candle", on Tuesday, July 28, at 7.30.

Those interested in participating ring Kitty Ephgrave 65657.

PIA Pakistan International Airlines advertisement with logo and flight information.

GOREN BRIDGE

A bridge game section with text by Charles H. Goren and a list of bidding scenarios.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to avoid the temptation to make sudden changes that appeal to you. MAINTAIN A POISED MANNER AND LATER YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH DIFFICULT TASKS.

THE Daily Crossword by Elaine D. Schorr

A crossword puzzle grid with clues for across and down words.

A second crossword puzzle grid with clues for across and down words.

